being guarded and patrolled by troops deployed on ground.

Strike by DRDO employees in Dehradun against scrapping of defence projects and corruption

322. SHRI C.P. THIRUNAVUKKARASU: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is fact that employees of DRDO in Dehradun have gone on indefinite strike to protest the scrapping of some defence projects and alleged corruption in defence reserved projects in the recent past;

(b) if so, the actual position in this regard; and

(c) the action taken by Government on the charges made by the employees?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) No. Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Opening of new Sainik schools

†323. DR. A.K. PATEL: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received any proposal to establish new Sainik schools;

(b) if so, the State-wise details thereof; and

(c) the names of such States wherein Government propose to open the said schools?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) Yes Sir.

(b) 29 requests from State Governments, M.Ps/VIP have been

† Original notice of the Question was received in Hindi.

received, in the recent past, from the States, U.Ts. of Bihar, Jharkhand, U.P., Uttaranchal, Delhi, Gujarat, Haryana, Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Andhra Pradesh, Arunachal Pradesh, Tripura, Mizoram, Nagaland and Andaman & Nicobar Islands.

(c) The opening of Sainik School is contingent upon the State Government concerned fulfilling all the required conditions for setting up of a Sainik School. No such proposal, meeting all the criteria for opening of a Sainik School, is pending with the Government.

Policy for re-settlement of families of soldiers who died in harness

†324. DR. A.K. PATEL: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have formulated any new policy for the resettlement of the families of those Jawans/Officers of different wings of Indian armed forces who during the course of discharge of their duties have sacrificed their lives during war or in other circumstances;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the details of different types of benefits provided to dependents during last two years alongwith the number of such dependents?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Question does not arise.

(c) **PENSIONARY BENEFITS:**

Families of Defence personnel killed in action are granted liberalised special family pension equal to last pay drawn by the deceased personnel at the time of his death. Pension at this rate is payable to the widow until her death or disqualification.

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† Original notice of the Question was received in Hindi.